

CURTIS
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VOL. 9 - NO. 9

BLUE BOLT

BLUE BOLT

10¢



+
GIVE

[illegible]

BLUE BOLT FLASHES

THE EDITORS WRITE:

Dear Readers:

Here's something important to remember in March — important enough to deserve extra-big type:

SUPPORT THE RED CROSS DRIVE!

Cordially yours,
THE EDITORS

THE READERS WRITE:

Dear Editors:

After reading the latest issue of the BLUE BOLT I have formed my opinion of this wonderful comic book.

I think the foremost reason I enjoy this book is because it is very realistic. The drawings and covers are excellent and I also like the "Questions and Answers." The things I enjoy most though are the plots of the stories. For instance, the "Dick Cole" stories vary and Dick enjoys sports and everything else the average boy does. The reason "Dick Cole" is such a favorite is that readers feel that he is one of them.

I wish to thank the editors for producing this wonderful down-to-earth comic book.

A "Dick Cole" fan,
Billy Gene Warren
Birmingham, Alabama
* * *

Dear Editor:

I am sorry to say but I think "Dick Cole" has been based on the same thing all the time.

I have been a faithful follower of BLUE BOLT for a long time, and the crook always catches Dick and he gets away just in time to win a football, baseball, or tennis game. Couldn't you

have him play one long complete game?

I like "Edison Bell" the best now. I used to like "Dick Cole."

Sincerely,
Edward Pierce
Salem, Massachusetts
* * *

Dear Sirs:

I have been reading BLUE BOLT comics since I can remember, and in my opinion it is tops.

"Dick Cole" is my favorite story. It is so realistic and he does things the average boy does. It has very good plots unlike some silly comics I have read.

There is only one criticism I have and that is: skip "Kids is Kids." I don't dislike it, but to me BLUE BOLT is more for older children and we have grown out of the kid-age.

I think it is a marvelous idea for you to put out a DICK COLE comic magazine, because I think Dick is America's ace comic boy.

Thank you,
Mahbrie Igleheart
Topeka, Kansas
* * *

Dear Sirs:

One of the main reasons I like BLUE BOLT comics is because of the pains-

taking artwork. BLUE BOLT is one of the few leading comic books which is careful of every minor detail.

"Dick Cole," in my opinion, is the best drawn in the book. I like to read the letters from the readers. It wouldn't hurt the book if there were two pages of letters. The only thing I've found wrong with the book is the print of "Rick Richards." It's a little hard to read.

Yours truly,
Reuben Ruy
Natchitoches, Louisiana
* * *

Dear Sirs:

I have read many comic books, ones which were funny and full of laughter, and others which were tense with excitement. But never have I read such an interesting, exciting, and enjoyable comic book as BLUE BOLT. But I do not say that it is perfect. I think it would be much better if you put in a story about a girls' college where there is a girl or a group of girls who save the day. As it is, all your stories are about young men and none about young women.

Yours truly,
Myron Steir
New York, New York

ADDRESS YOUR MAIL TO BLUE BOLT COMICS, 119 W. 19th ST., NEW YORK 11, N. Y.
\$1.00 will be sent to the writer of each letter published on this page.

Printed in the U.S.A.

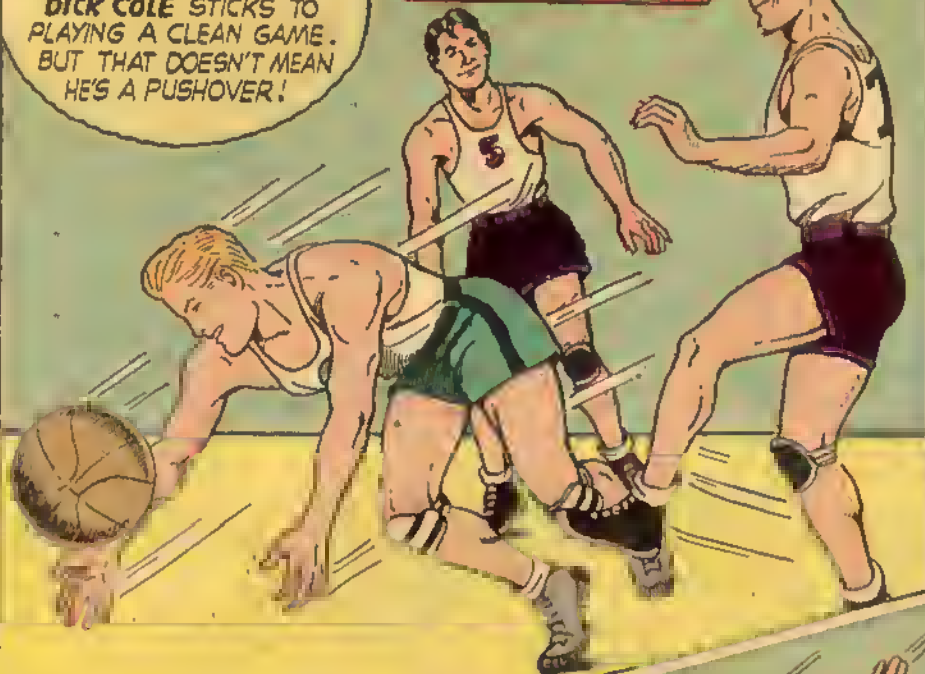
DICK COLE

EVEN WHEN FOULS FLY THICK AND FAST BOTH ON AND OFF THE COURT, HARD-HITTING **DICK COLE** STICKS TO PLAYING A CLEAN GAME. BUT THAT DOESN'T MEAN HE'S A PUSHOVER!

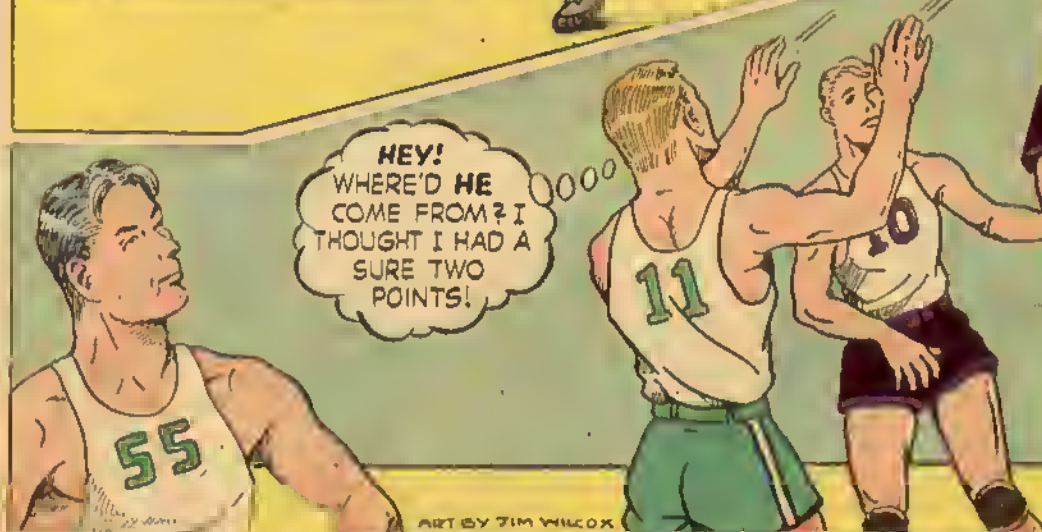
WILSON	44
4	
FARR	43



THIS STORY BEGINS AT A CRUCIAL MILITARY SCHOOL LEAGUE BASKETBALL GAME BETWEEN WILSON AND HOLDEN ACADEMIES. "HEX" NORTON PLAYS BRILLIANTLY FOR WILSON.



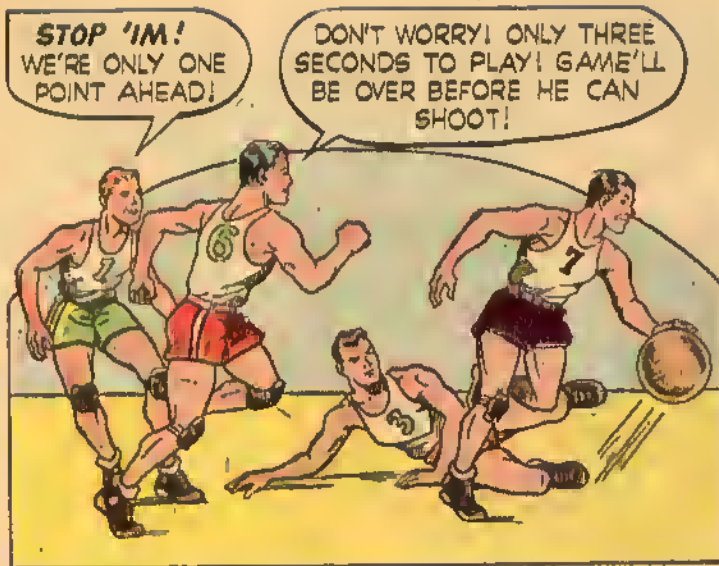
HEY! WHERE'D HE COME FROM? I THOUGHT I HAD A SURE TWO POINTS!



ART BY TIM WILCOX

Robert D. Wheeler, Editor and General Manager
Mel Cummin, Art Director

BLUE BOLT, Vol. 9, No. 9, May-June, 1949, published bi-monthly by The Premium Group of Comics, a Division of The Premium Service Co. Inc., P.O. Box 1198, Independence Square, Philadelphia, Pa. Editorial offices, 119 West 19th Street, New York 11, N.Y. Printed in U.S.A., copyright 1949 by The Premium Service Co. Inc. Price 10 cents per copy. Subscription price \$1.00 per year (6 issues) in U.S.A. Entered as Second-Class matter, March 20, 1940, at the Post Office at Philadelphia, Pa., under the Act of March 3, 1879. All characters and incidents described or depicted in stories (except those based on history or fact) are fictitious. Any resemblance to living persons is a coincidence.



The next issue of this magazine will go on sale

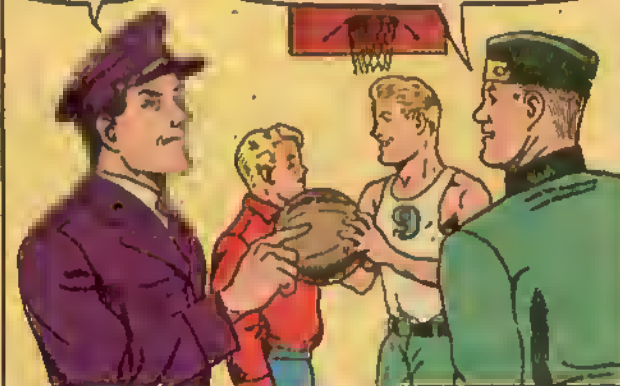
May 11

— Don't miss it.

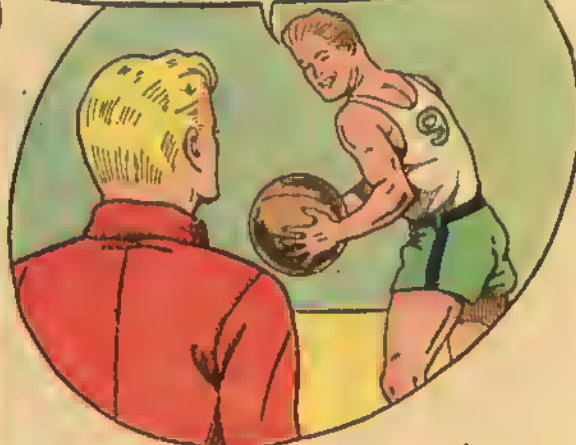
NEXT DAY, HEX MAKES A TRIP TO FARR M. A. AND PAYS A "FRIENDLY" CALL TO THE FARR GYM.

WHO'S THE KID WITH DICK COLE?

THAT'S DICK'S BROTHER, ROD, HERE FOR A VISIT! DICK'S GIVING HIM SOME POINTERS!

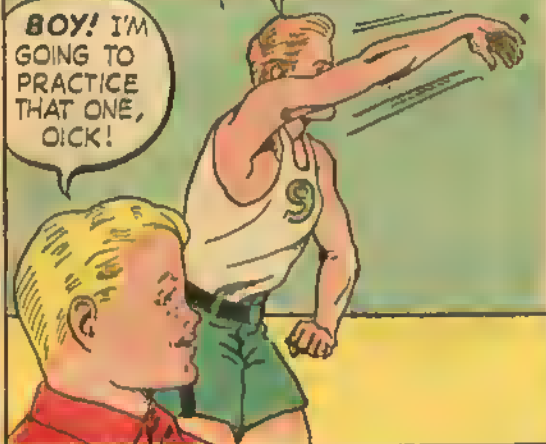


THE PIVOT SHOT COMES IN HANDY, ROD. YOU START LIKE THIS, WITH YOUR BACK TO THE BASKET.



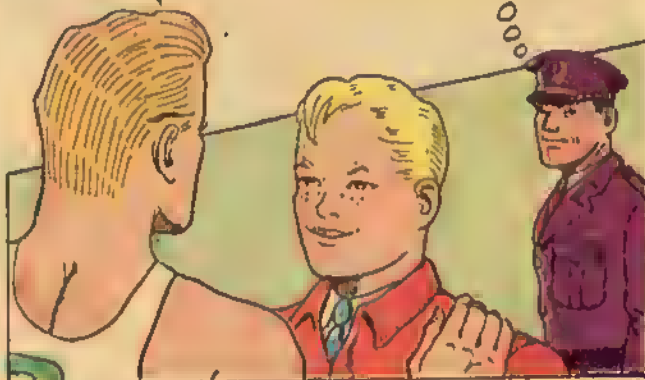
THEN PIVOT ABOUT AND POP 'ER IN, LIKE **THAT!** A HARD SHOT TO STOP!

BOY! I'M GOING TO PRACTICE THAT ONE, DICK!



GO TO IT, ROD! PRACTICE DOES IT! FARR'LL NEED YOU SOME DAY!

HMMM. THOSE BROTHERS THINK A LOT OF EACH OTHER! I FEEL A SWELL IDEA COMING ON!



HEX RETURNS TO WILSON M. A., AND HIS CRONIES, MILT AND GEORGE.

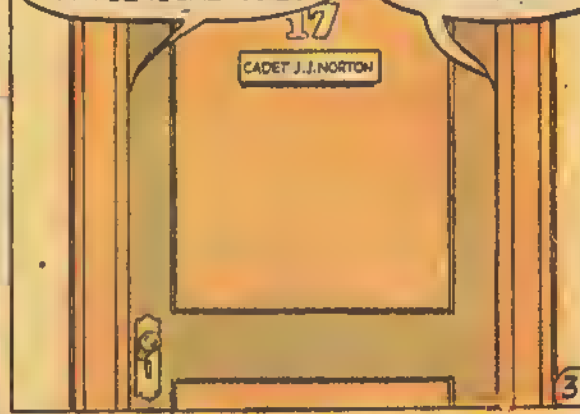
WITHOUT DICK COLE, FARR IS SURE TO LOSE! THAT'S WHY I WANT YOU TWO FELLOWS TO PULL A HARMLESS LITTLE SCHOOLBOY PRANK... FIRST, GET A CAR...

NIX! DICK COLE IS TOO TOUGH TO KIONAP!



RELAX! THIS STUNT WILL BE EASY. ALL YOU HAVE TO DO IS GIVE THE KID A PLEASURE RIDE!

KIO, EH? THAT'S OFFERENT! LET'S HEAR YOUR ANGLE!



Q 1 Would you associate the word "hex" with witchcraft, carpentry, or swearing?

A FEW DAYS LATER, AS ROD IS HEADING FOR THE FARR GYM TO VIEW THE BIG PLAY-OFF GAME WITH WILSON...

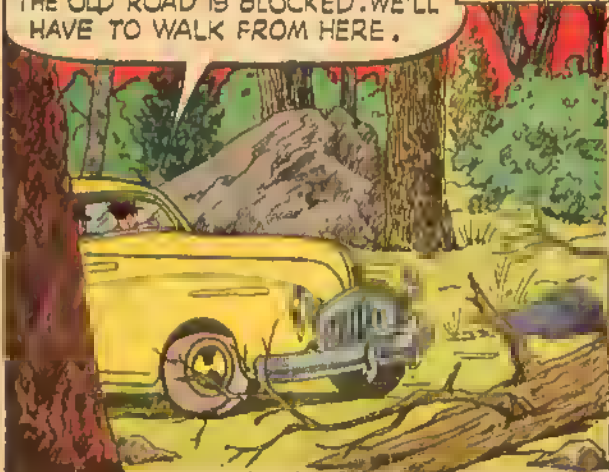


IN YOU GO! DON'T YELL OR WE'LL BAT YOUR EARS DOWN!

NOBODY SAW US! STEP ON IT, MILT!

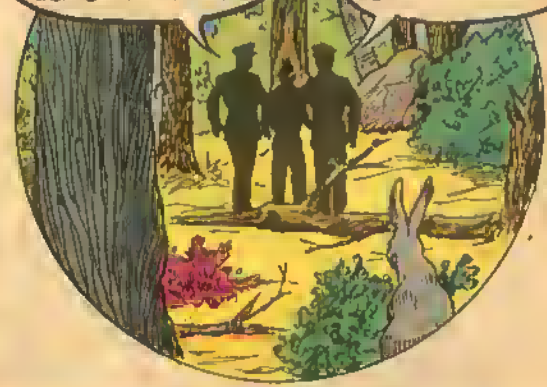


ROD IS WHISKED OFF TO A POINT A FEW MILES AWAY... THE OLD ROAD IS BLOCKED. WE'LL HAVE TO WALK FROM HERE.



ONLY A FEW MILES MORE. WE'RE GOING TO LEAVE YOU SHUT UP IN THE ABANDONED LUMBER CAMP!

KEEP WALKING STRAIGHT ALONG, AND NO FUNNY BUSINESS! YOU CAN'T ESCAPE!

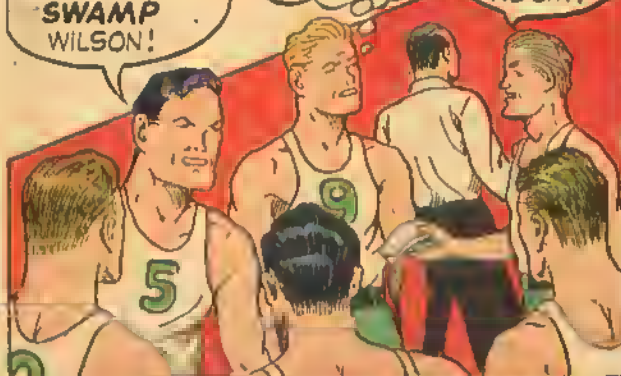


BACK AT FARR...

C'MON, TEAM! LET'S GO! WE'LL SWAMP WILSON!

I WONDER WHERE ROD IS? HE'S NOT IN HIS SEAT!

DICK! I FOUND THIS NOTE FOR YOU IN THE DRESSING ROOM!



GREAT SCOTT!

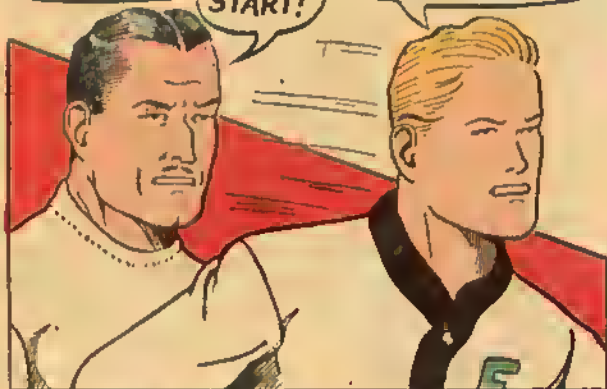


A 1 Witchcraft! "Hex" means "witch" or "bewitch."

HASTILY PUTTING ON A JACKET, DICK DASHES FROM THE COURT!

COLE! WHERE ARE YOU GOING? WHAT'S GOT INTO YOU? THE GAME'S ABOUT TO START!

SORRY, BUT THIS IS MORE IMPORTANT, COACH BRADLY!



PFAW! A TYPICAL GRANDSTAND COLE STUNT! WANTS TO PLAY HERO AT SOMETHING, JUST WHEN WE NEED HIM!

YIPPEE! THERE HE GOES! IT WORKED PERFECTLY!



THE GAME IS ON AND HEX GETS WILSON OFF TO A GOOD START WITH A LAYUP SHOT.

I'LL STRUT MY STUFF FOR THAT PRO SCOUT! BET I LAND A CONTRACT AND PLAY IN BIG CITY!



BARK HALL'S SKILLFUL PLAY KEEPS FARR IN THE GAME.

PERFECT SHOT, BARK! ATTABOY! THEY'RE ONLY TEN POINTS AHEAD NOW!

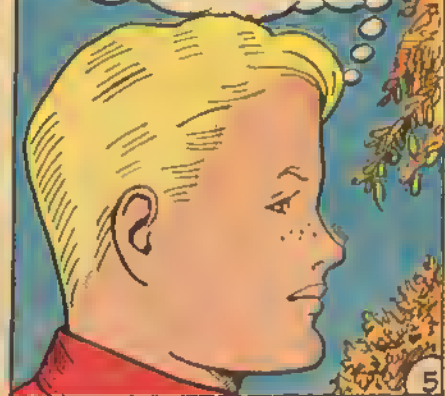
BAH! IF COLE HADN'T RUN OUT ON US, WE'D BE IN THE LEAD!

MEANWHILE... THERE'S THE CAMP UP AHEAD AND I'LL BET YOUR BIG BROTHER'S ON HIS WAY RIGHT NOW!

GOSH, IF DICK LEAVES THE GAME AND RUNS ALL THE WAY OUT HERE TO GET ME, THE GAME'LL BE OVER BY THE TIME WE GET BACK.



DICK WON'T GET A CHANCE TO PLAY, AND FARR WILL LOSE... UNLESS I DO SOMETHING IN A HURRY!



Q 2 Are there nine, eight, seven, or five players on a mens' basketball team?

HERE WE ARE! LOOK AT THAT OLD LOG! BET ONE PUSH WOULD SEND IT SHOOTIN' DOWN INTO THE POND LIKE OLD DAYS, EH, MILT?



SWIFTLY, ROD STOOPS AND GRABS THE BUCKET!



PIVOTING SWIFTLY, ROD HURLS THE BUCKET...



THEN DASHES FOR THE LOG ON THE CHUTE!

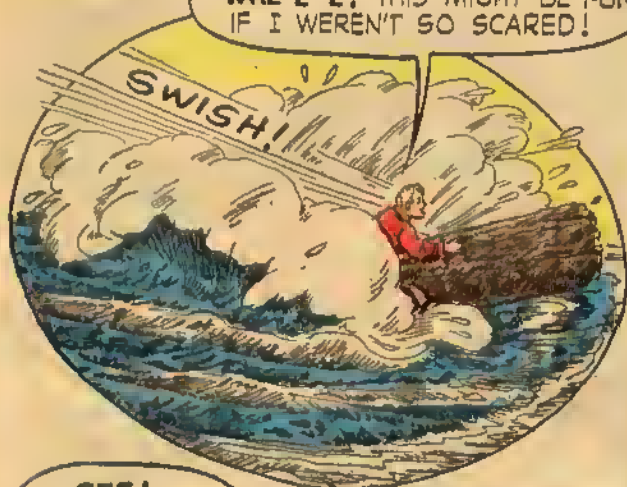


ROD'S LEAP STARTS THE LOG DOWN THE CHUTE!
AFTER HIM! DON'T LET HIM GET AWAY!
ULP! I'M GOING FASTER THAN I EXPECTED!



THE LOG HITS THE WATER WITH A TREMENDOUS SPLASH!

WHE-E-E! THIS MIGHT BE FUN,
IF I WEREN'T SO SCARED!

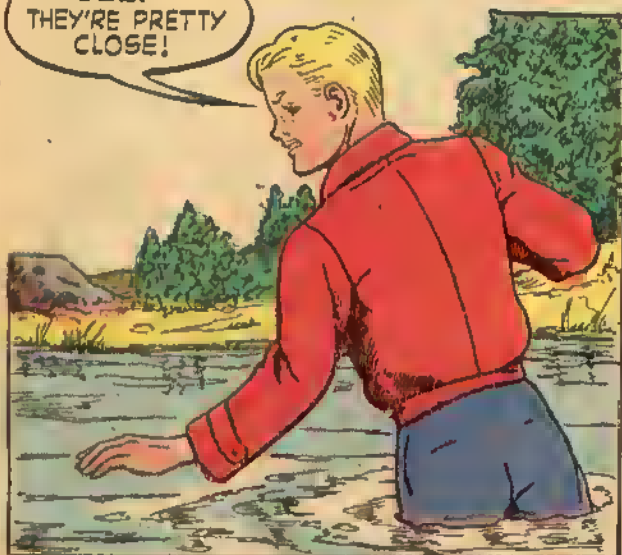


THERE HE IS! SWIMMING BACK! THE
LOG CARRIED HIM OUT ON THE POND!

C'MON! LET'S
HEAD HIM OFF!

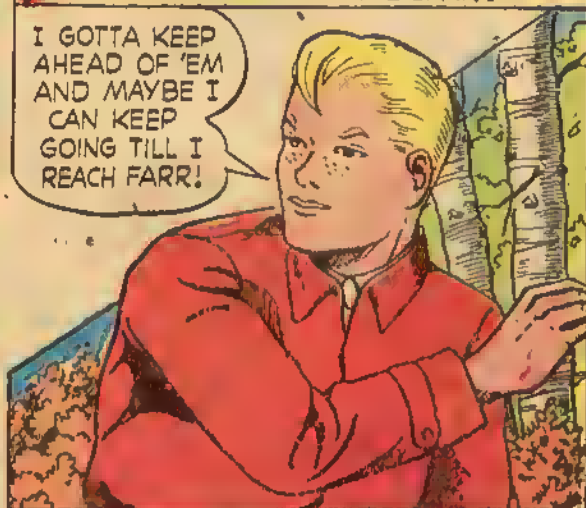


GEE!
THEY'RE PRETTY
CLOSE!



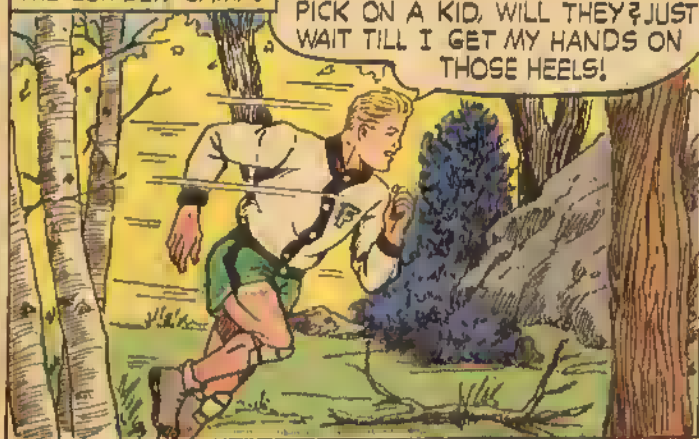
ROD SCRAMBLES ONTO THE BANK.

I GOTTA KEEP
AHEAD OF 'EM
AND MAYBE I
CAN KEEP
GOING TILL I
REACH FARR!

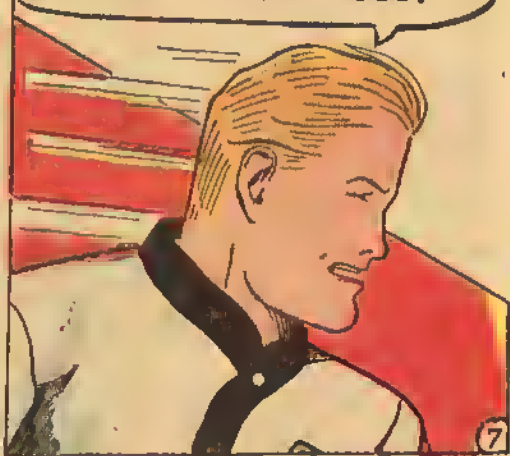


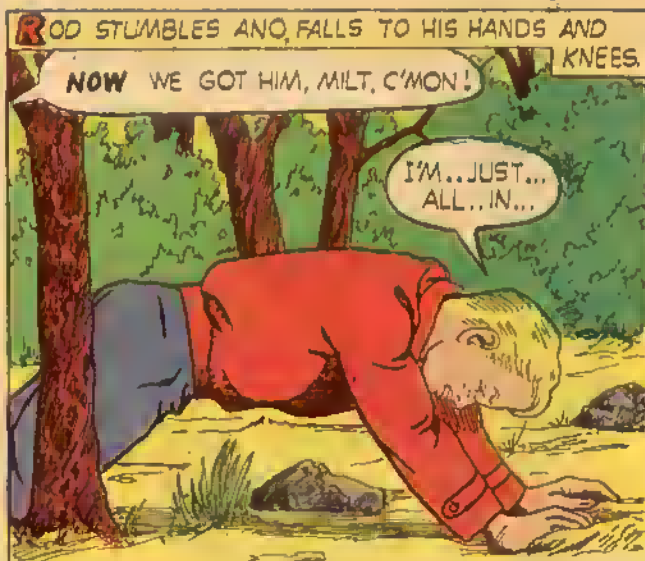
FURIOUS AT THE THOUGHT OF ROD'S KIDNAPPING,
DICK HAS REACHED A POINT SEVERAL MILES FROM
THE LUMBER CAMP.

PICK ON A KID, WILL THEY? JUST
WAIT TILL I GET MY HANDS ON
THOSE HEELS!

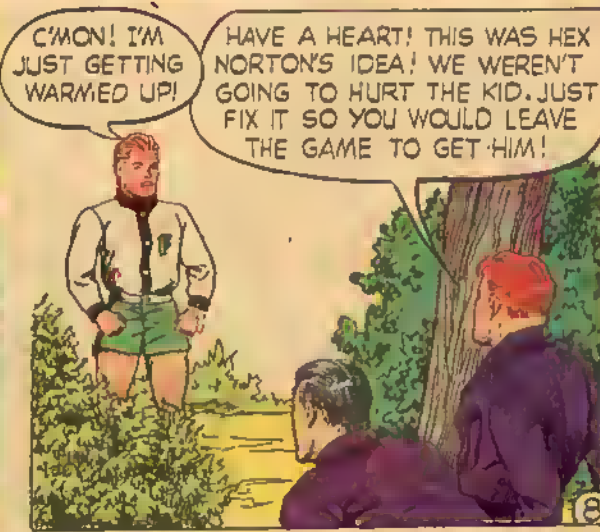
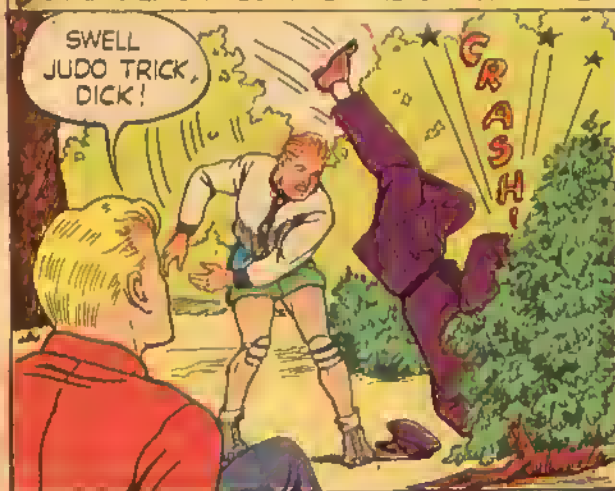


HELLO! SOMEONE HEADING THIS
WAY... WHY... IT'S ROD! GOOD!





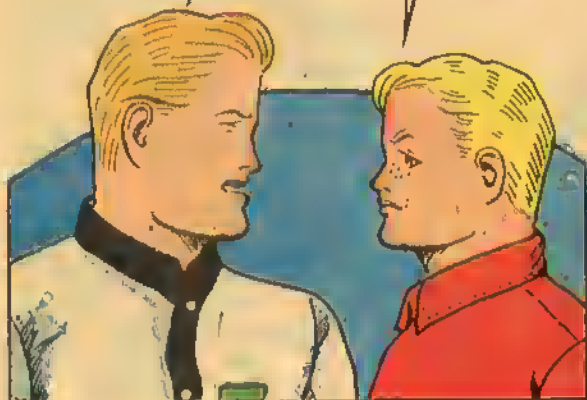
DICK EASILY DISPOSES OF THE CHARGING MILT.



A s Store, storm, stern, steer, strum, and stone are six. Did you find others?

SO HEX NORTON IS THE MASTERMIND, EH? BOY, IS HE IN FOR A SHOCK!

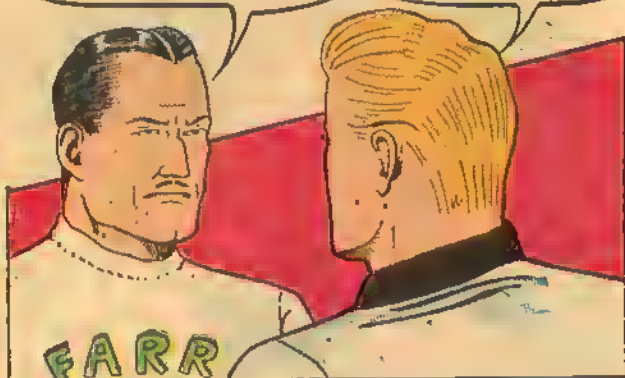
LET'S HURRY BACK, DICK! I'VE GOT MY WIND BACK!



DICK AND ROD, HELPED BY A PASSING MOTORIST, REACH THE GYM BEFORE THE THIRD QUARTER IS OVER.

IT'S ABOUT TIME, COLE! WE'RE TWELVE POINTS BEHIND! HEX NORTON IS RUNNING WILD!

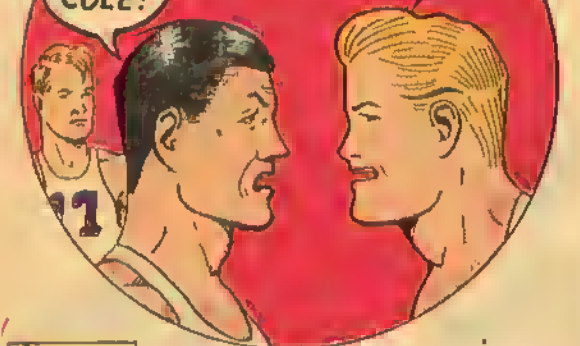
PUT ME IN, COACH! I'D LOVE TO TAME MR. NORTON!



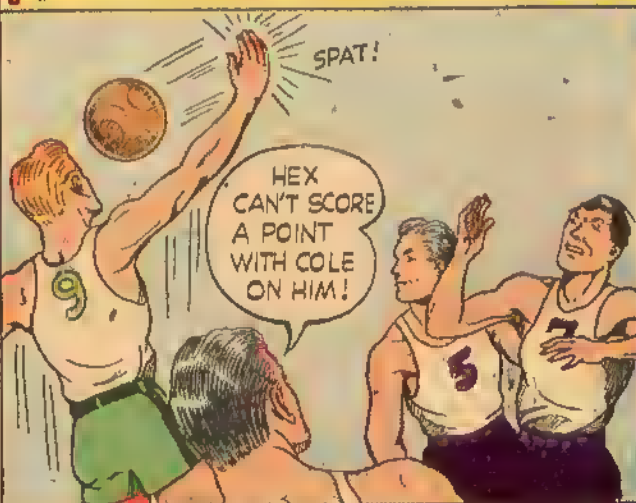
A MOMENT LATER...

MY BROTHER UPSET YOUR TIMETABLE BY ESCAPING! THANKS TO HIM, I'M BACK IN TIME TO TAKE YOU ON, NORTON!

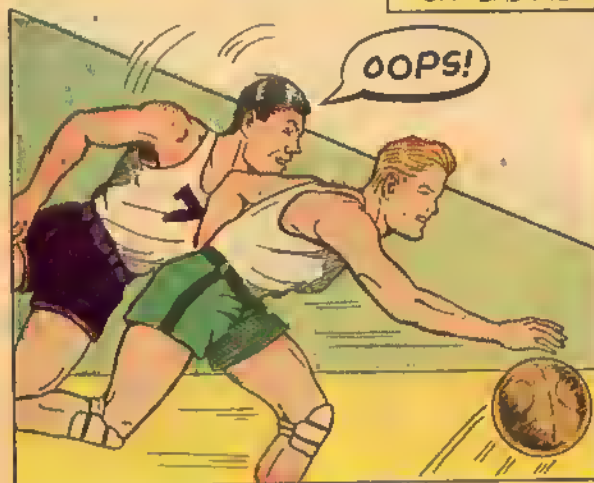
AWK! COLE!



PLAYING IN A COLD FURY, DICK BOTTLES UP HEX.



ON THE OFFENSE, DICK'S SWIFT FEINTS THREW HEX OFF BALANCE.



IN THE FOURTH QUARTER...

THAT'S THE STUFF, COLE! THAT TIES UP THE GAME!

GET ON THE BALL, HEX! COLE HAS SCORED TEN POINTS ON YOU!



Q 4 Is basketball a sport of American, Swedish, or Japanese origin?

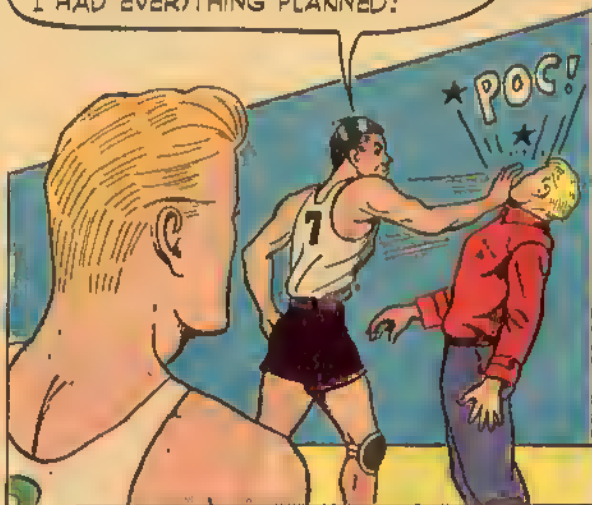
WITH DICK SPARKING THE RALLY, FARR WINS THE CHAMPIONSHIP GAME 54-49!

YIPPEE! YOU DID IT, DICK!

AW, NUTS!

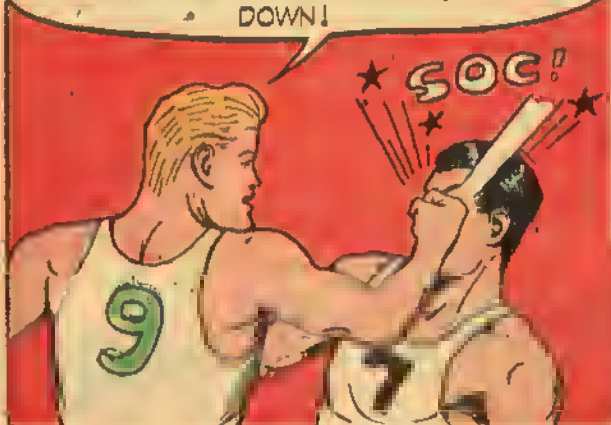


YOU SPOILED IT, YOU LITTLE TWERP! I HAD EVERYTHING PLANNED!



DICK SPRINGS TO HIS BROTHER'S AID...

THANKS FOR THE EXCUSE, HEX! I WAS AFRAID I WOULDN'T GET A CHANCE TO SLAP YOU DOWN!



LATER, HEX TRIES TO SALVAGE SOMETHING FROM THE GAME BY APPROACHING THE PRO SCOUT...

HUH! YOU LOOKED PRETTY GOOD IN THE FIRST HALF, SON, BUT...

I'D LIKE TO GET A JOB ON A PRO TEAM. MAKE A DECENT OFFER AND WE CAN DO BUSINESS.



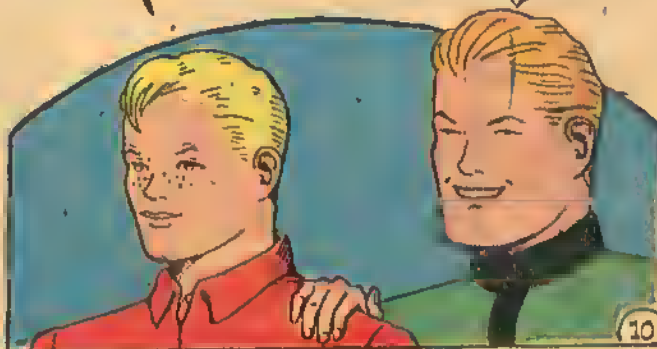
... AS SOON AS YOU MET SOME REAL OPPOSITION, YOU FIZZLED OUT! WE CAN'T USE A FLASH-IN-THE-PAN!

GULP!



THERE GOES HEX AND HE SURE LOOKS UNHAPPY! HE FLOPPED ALL ALONG THE LINE!

THAT ALWAYS HAPPENS TO POOR SPORTS, ROD! THE ONLY WAY TO PLAY A GAME IS FAIR AND SQUARE. THAT ALWAYS PAYS OFF!



GROVER AND BONNIE

in The HOUSE OF MAGIC.

WHEN GROVER CLUMP, SALESMAN FOR TERRIFIC TICK TOCK CORP., CLOCK MANUFACTURERS, TRIES TO MAKE HOUSEWORK EASIER FOR HIS BRIDE, BONNIE, PHONE OPERATOR AT THE SAME FIRM, HE GETS THEM BOTH IN A PACK OF TROUBLE.



LET'S SPEND OUR VACATION AT HOME THIS YEAR, BONNIE. I NEED A GOOD REST.



YOU THOUGHT! YOU NEVER THINK OF ME, I SLAVE ALL DAY AT THE OFFICE AND THEN COME HOME AND DO ALL THE HOUSEWORK. WHAT WE NEED IS A MAID.

GEE, HONEY, YOU KNOW WE CAN'T AFFORD A MAID...BUT.. WAIT A MINUTE..

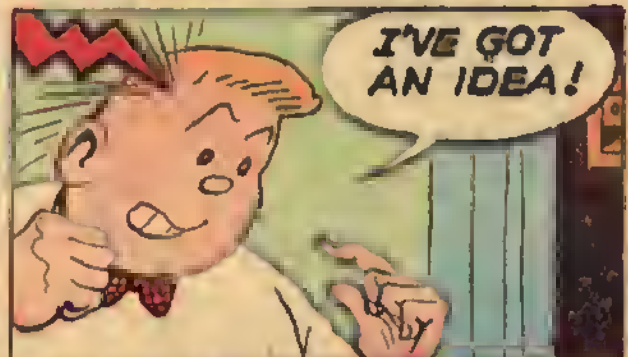


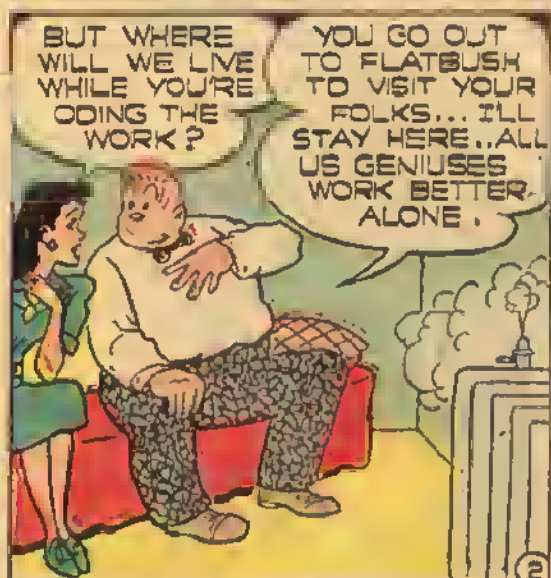
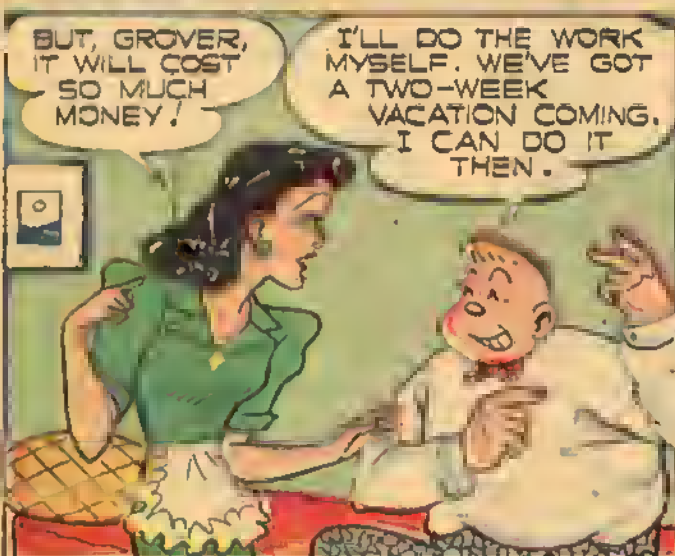
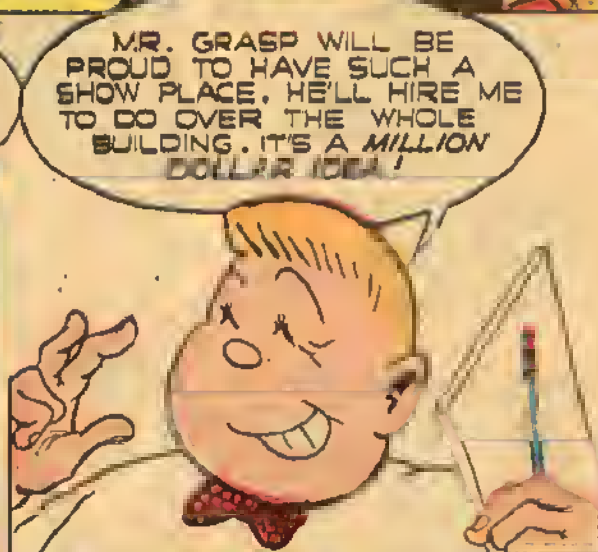
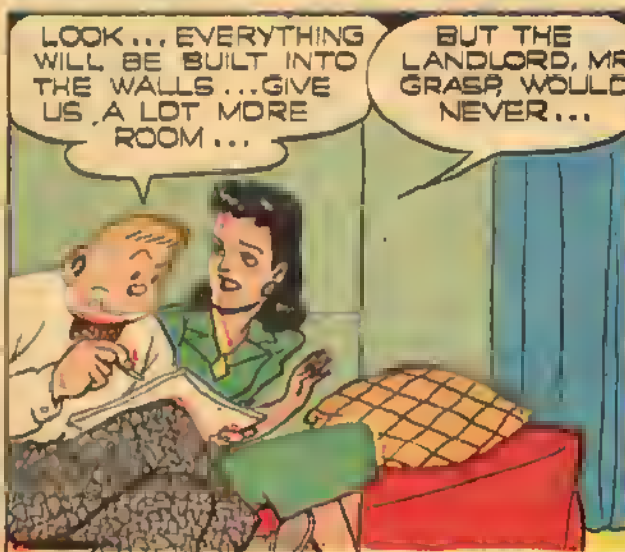
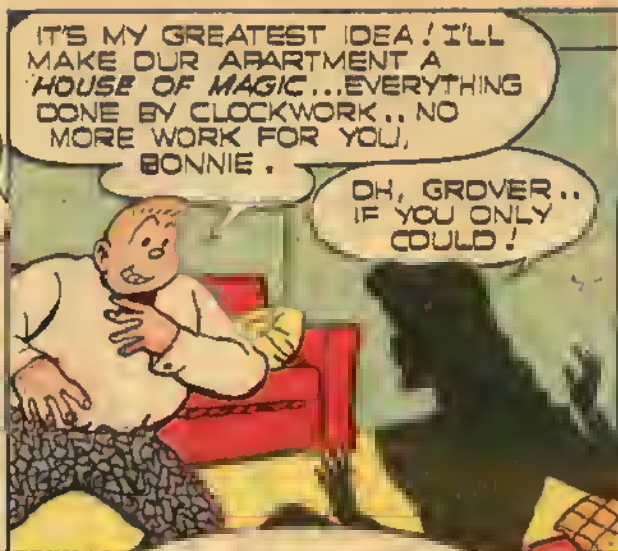
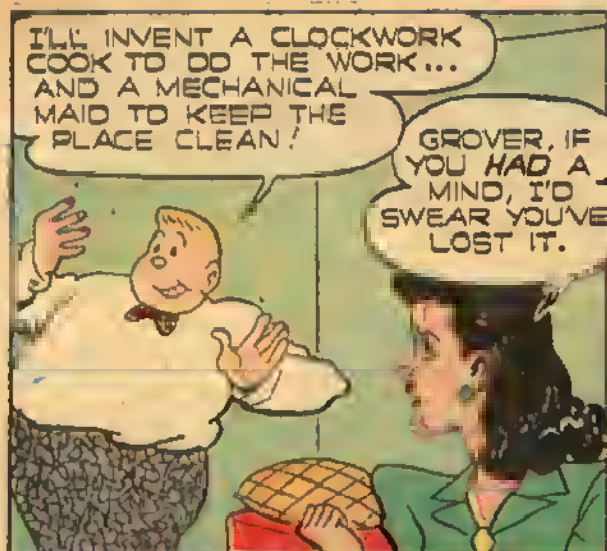
YOU NEED A REST! HOW ABOUT ME? VACATION AT HOME, HUH? COOKING, DISHWASHING, SWEEPING...A FINE VACATION FOR ME!

GEE, BONNIE, ALL I THOUGHT WAS...

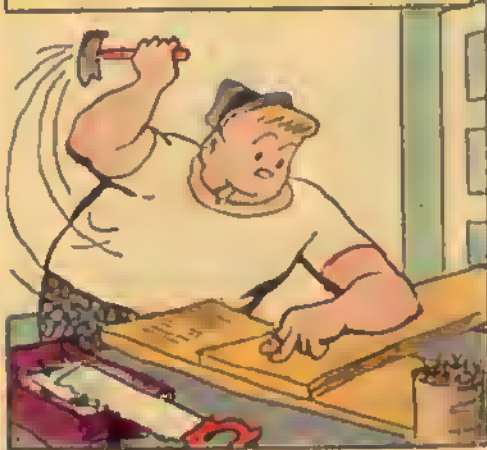


I'VE GOT AN IDEA!





AND SO GROVER BUILDS HIS HOUSE OF MAGIC. TWO WEEKS PASS BY.



CH. GROVER... DID YOU MISS ME?

WELCOME HOME, BONNIE, AND...



... WE WELCOME TO THE CLUMP HOUSE OF MAGIC!



GROVER, WHERE IS ALL THE FURNITURE? EVERYTHING IS GONE!

NOT GONE, MY SWEET. JUST TUCKED AWAY IN THE WALLS... AWAITING THE TOUCH OF A BUTTON. WON'T YOU TAKE OFF YOUR HAT?

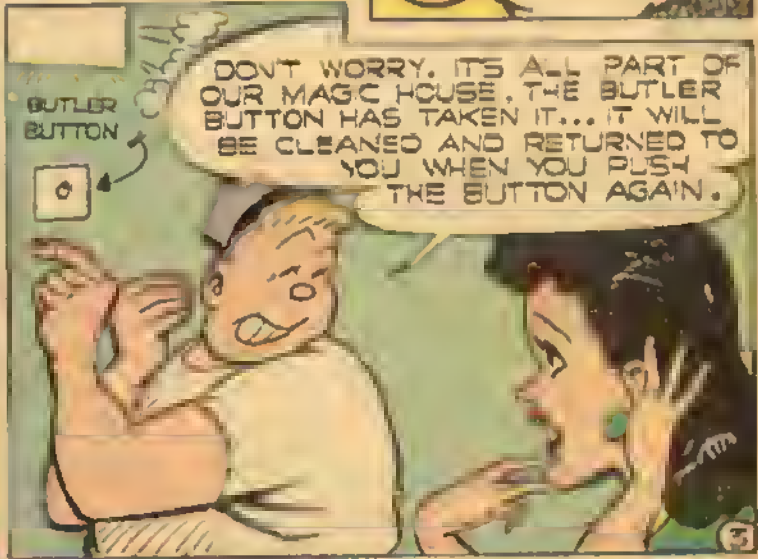


GROVER, MY NEW HAT... IT'S GONE!

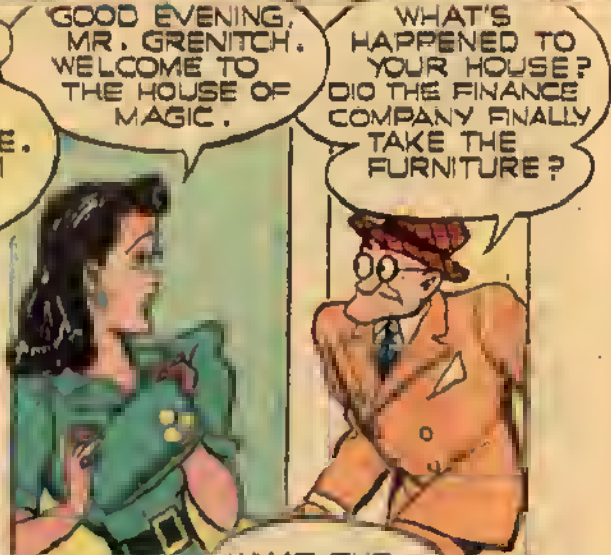
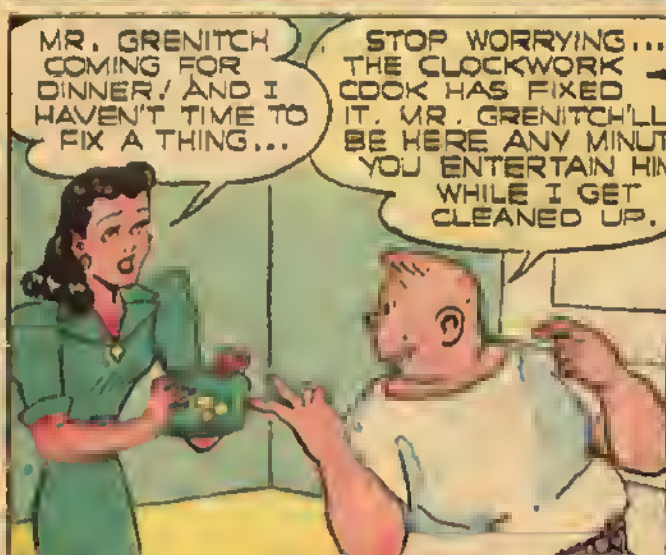
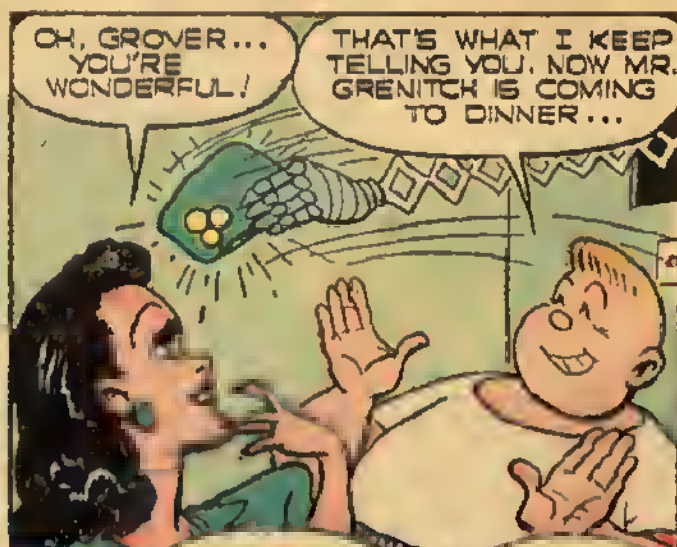


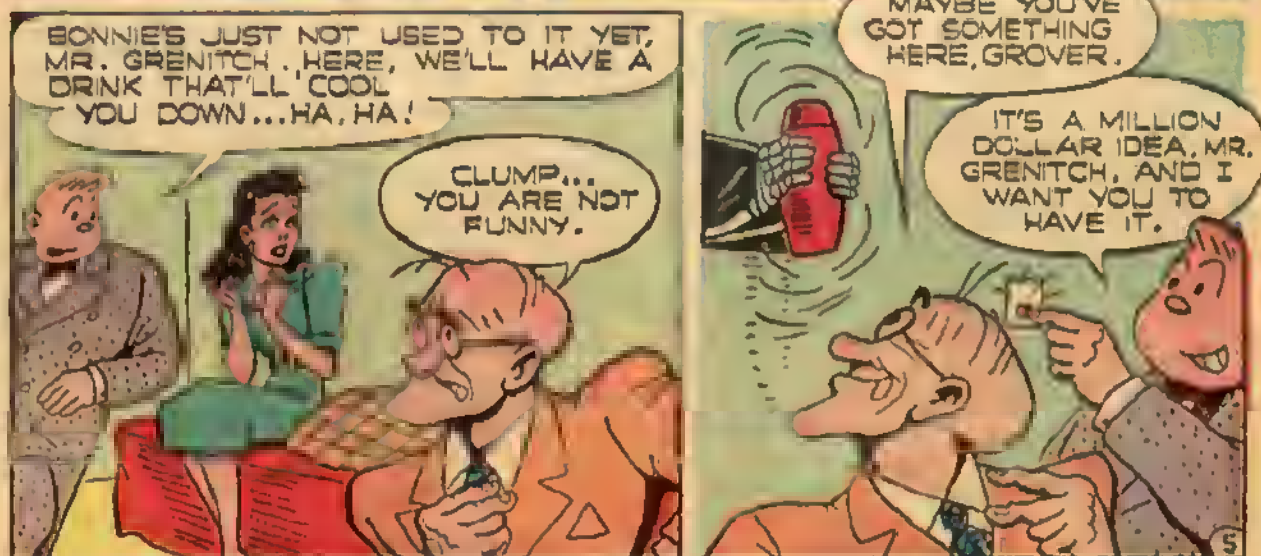
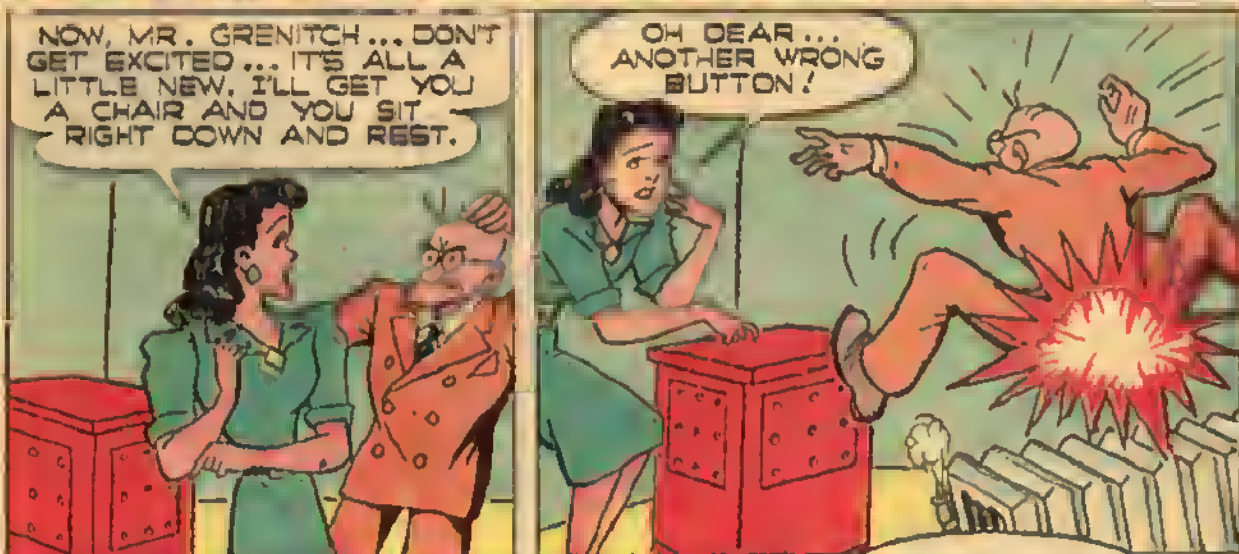
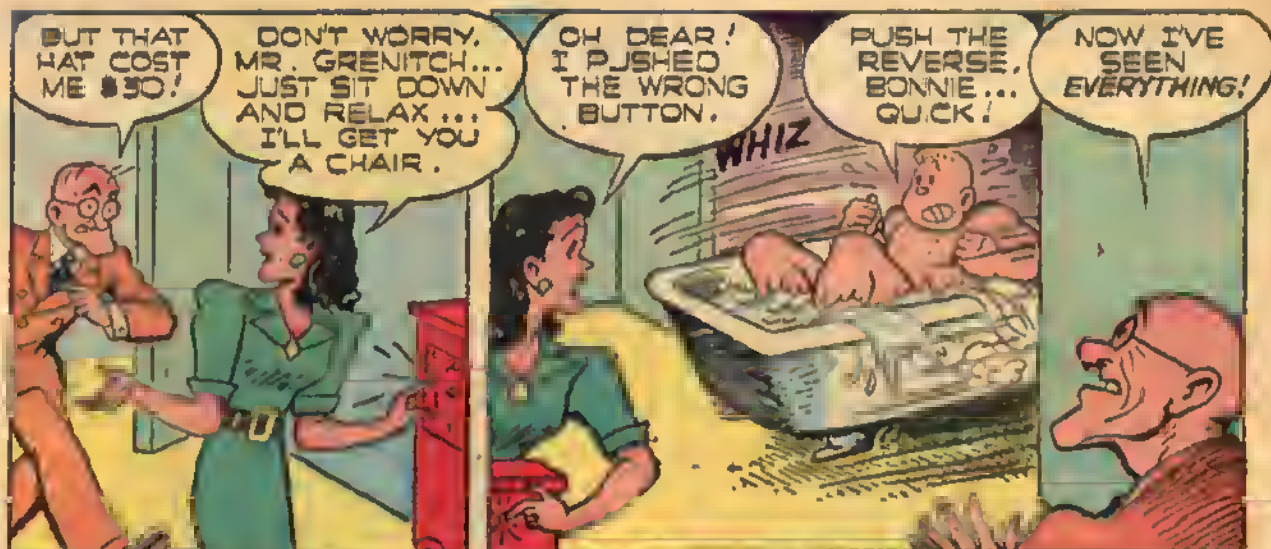
BUTLER BUTTON

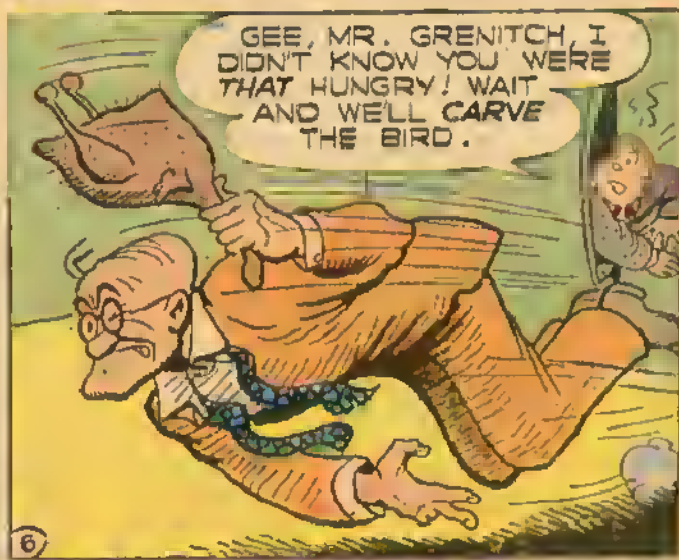
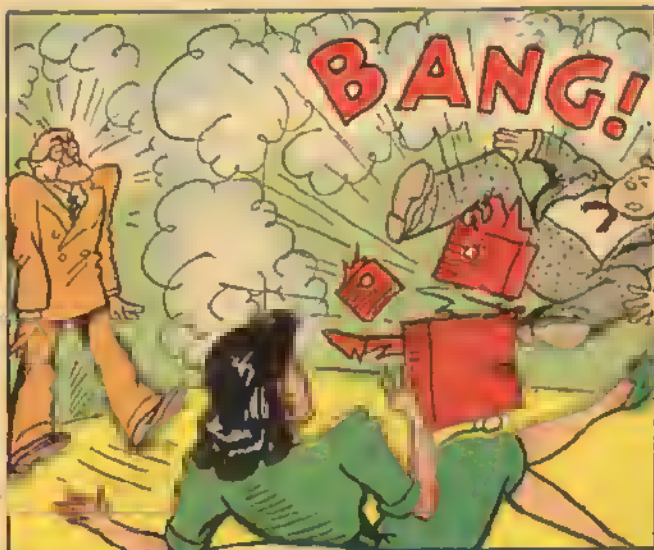
DON'T WORRY. IT'S ALL PART OF OUR MAGIC HOUSE. THE BUTLER BUTTON HAS TAKEN IT... IT WILL BE CLEANED AND RETURNED TO YOU WHEN YOU PUSH THE BUTTON AGAIN.



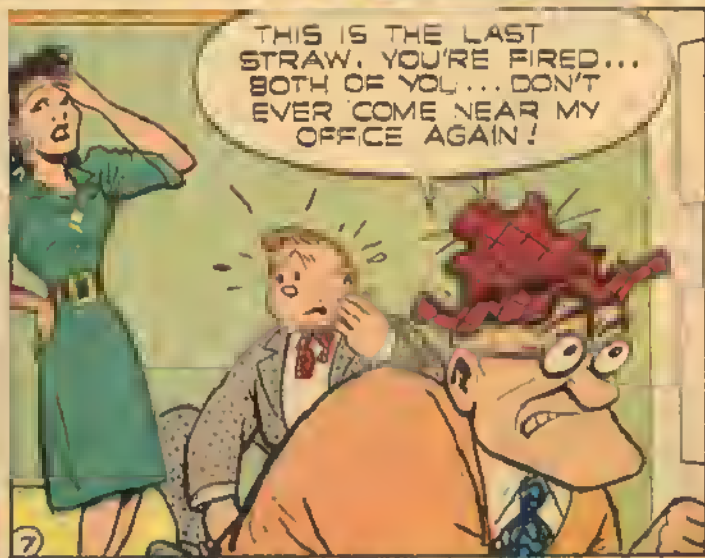
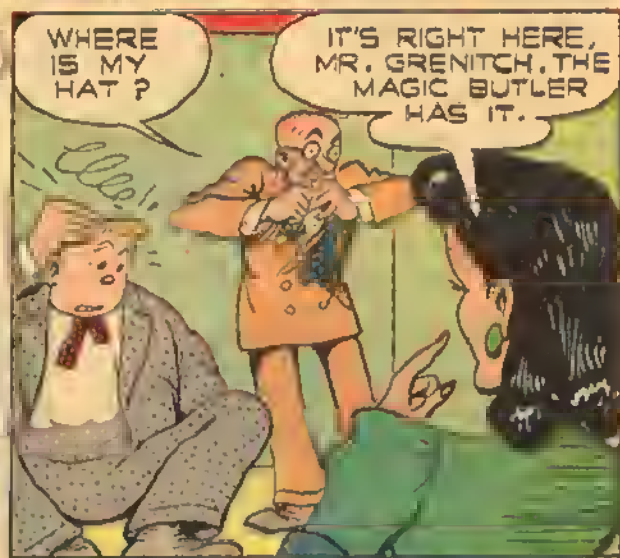
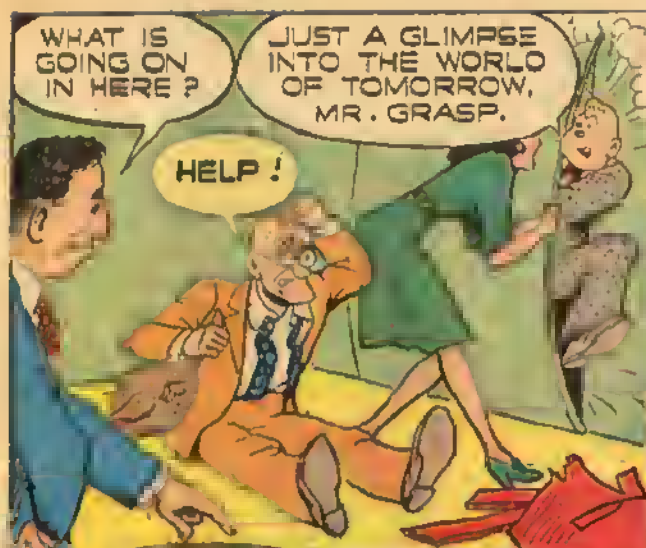
Q 6 The initials of a famous American magician were H. H. Can you give his name?

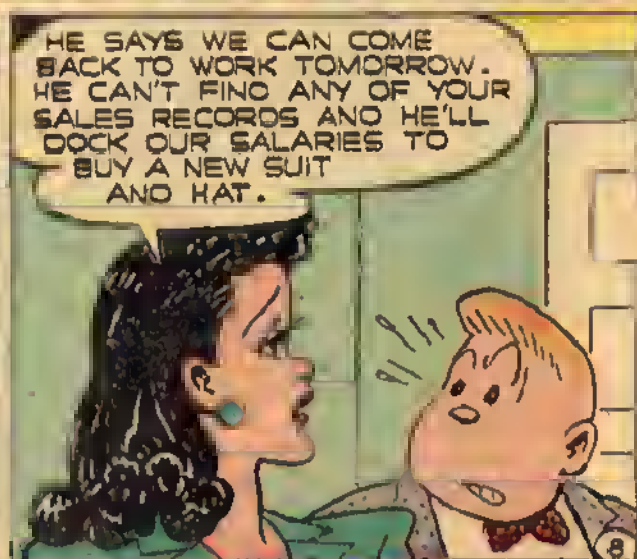
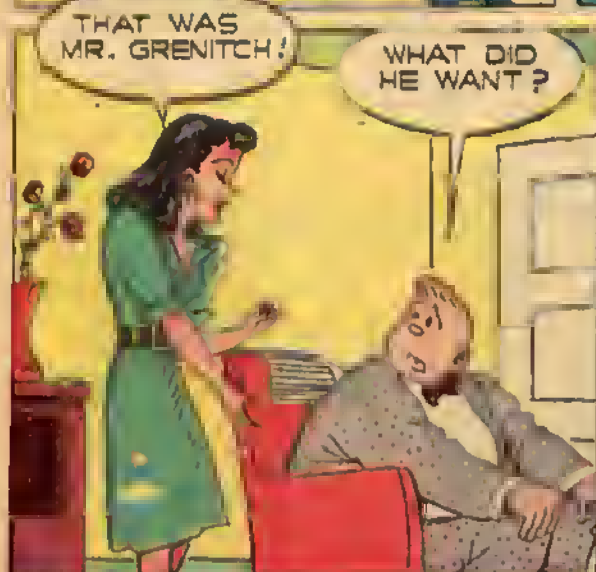
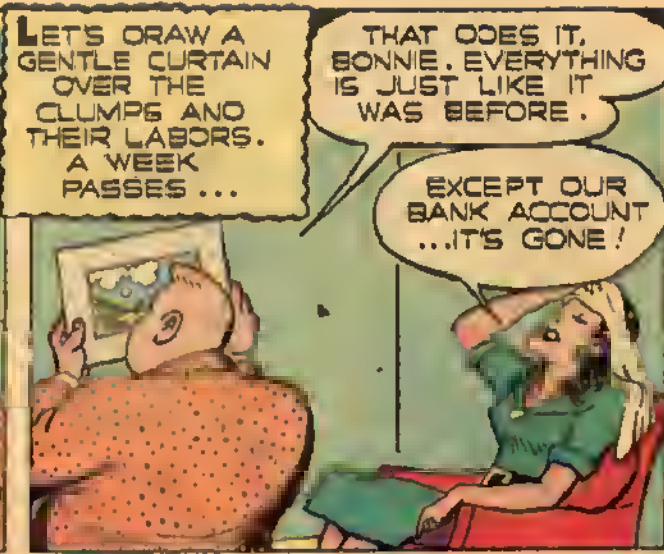






A 7 Yes. It is the second highest British order, given for military and civil service.





BLUE BOLT

THE AMERICAN

BLUE BOLT AND SNAP DOODLE, THE DARING PILOT-PHOTOGRAPHER TEAM FOR GLIMPSES MAGAZINE, DEFEY A MAN-EATING SHARK TO GET A WHALE OF A STORY!

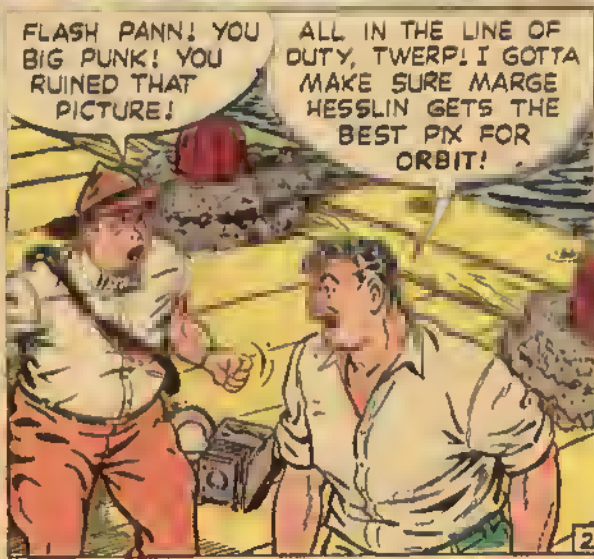
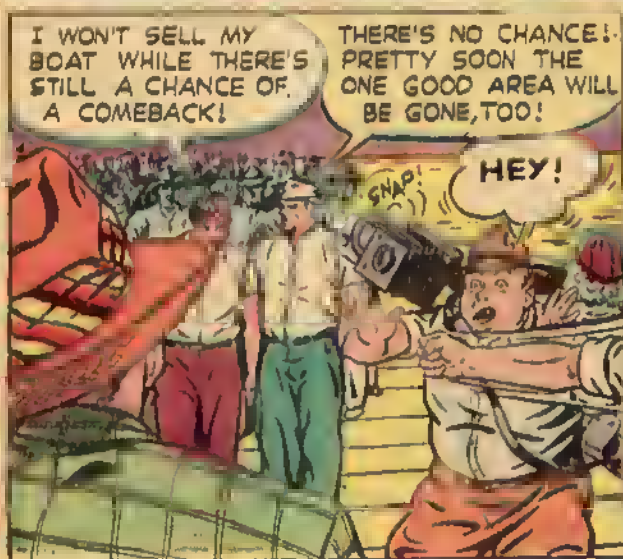
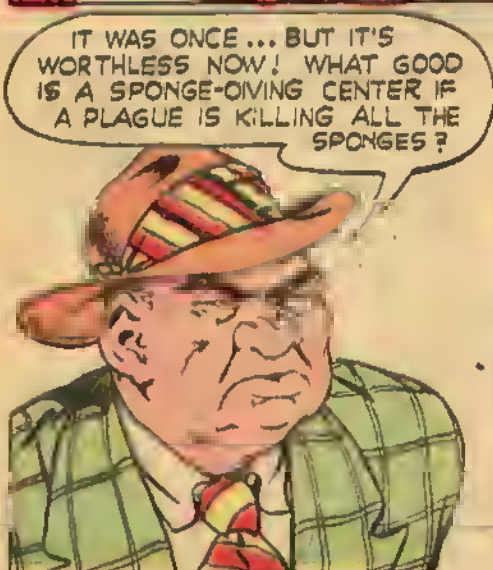
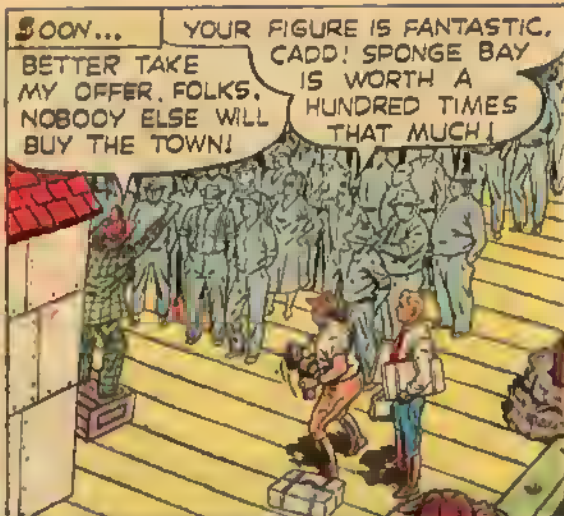
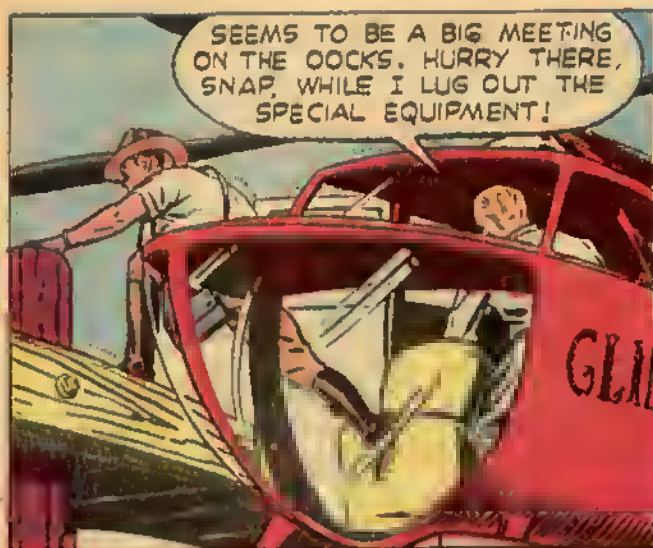
WHEW! THAT WAS CLOSE!

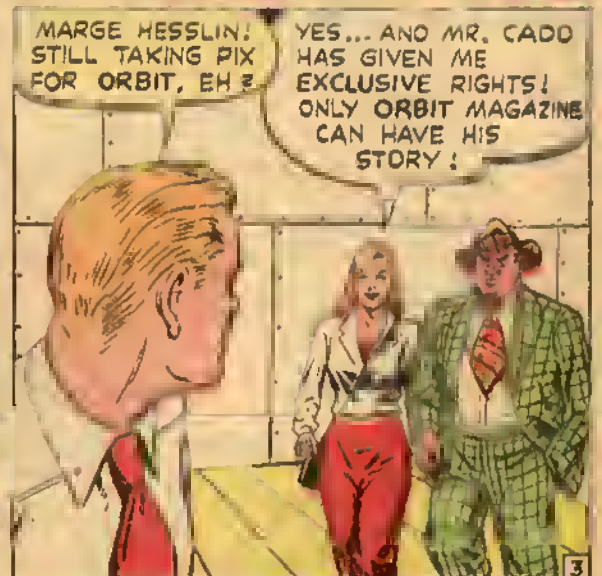
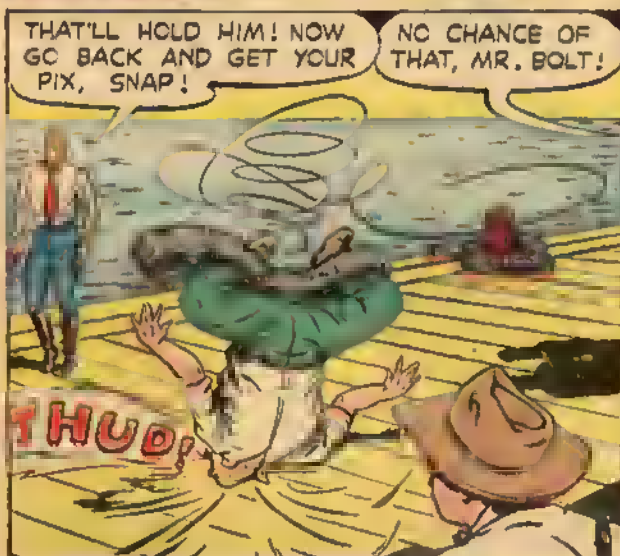
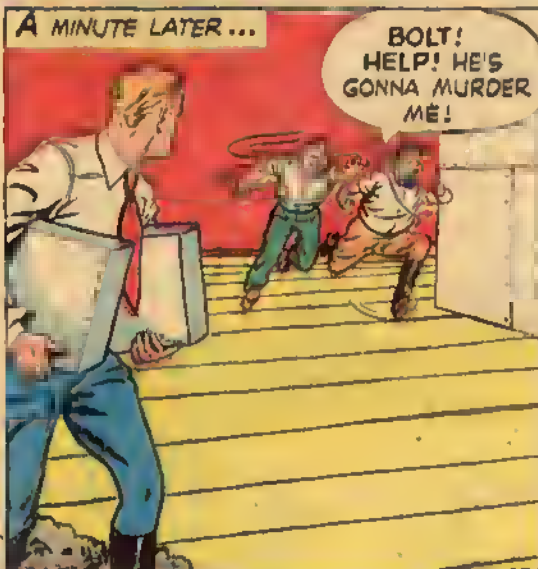
OH BOY! WHAT A SHOT!

BLUE BOLT LANDS AT SPONGE BAY, A SMALL TOWN ON THE GULF COAST OF FLORIDA.

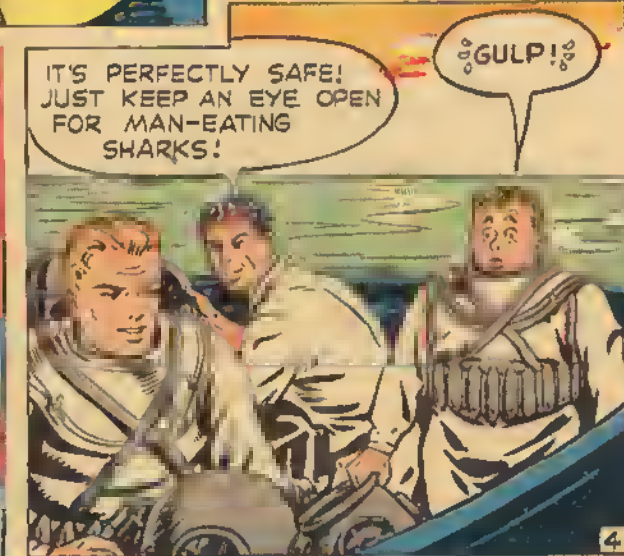
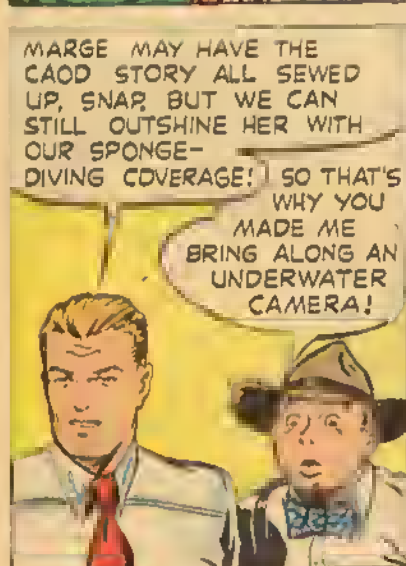
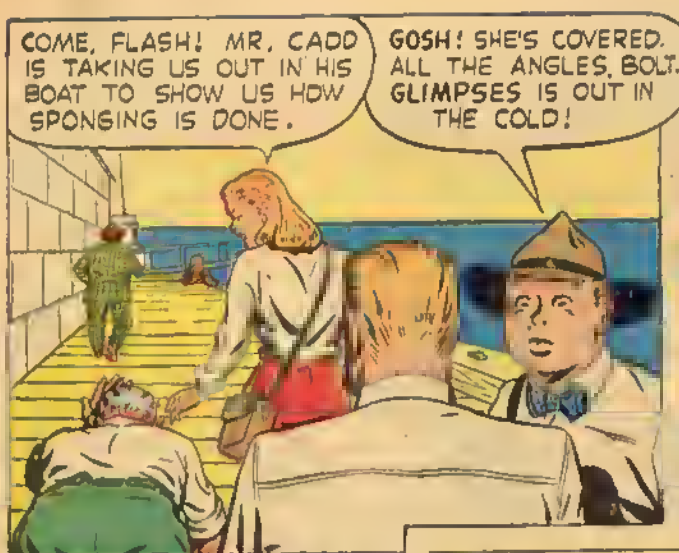
IMAGINE, THE WHOLE TOWN IS FOR SALE, SNAP! OUGHT TO MAKE A GOOD YARN!

WONDER WHY SPONGE BAY IS THROWING IN THE SPONGE?





Q10 Which constitutional amendment assured citizens the right to vote regardless of sex?



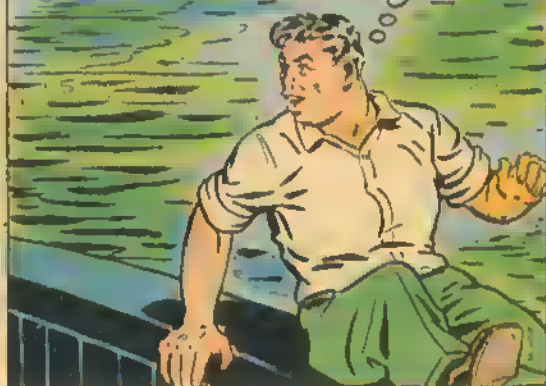
AS THE GLIMPSES PAIR DESCEND, FLASH APPROACHES...

HI, THERE!
WANT ANY HELP
IN WATCHING THE
AIR HOSE?

SURE. I'D LIKE
TO GO BELOW TO
CHECK MY ENGINE!



OH BOY! WITH ME IN
CHARGE, THEY WON'T STAY
DOWN LONG ENOUGH TO
CLICK THEIR CAMERA!

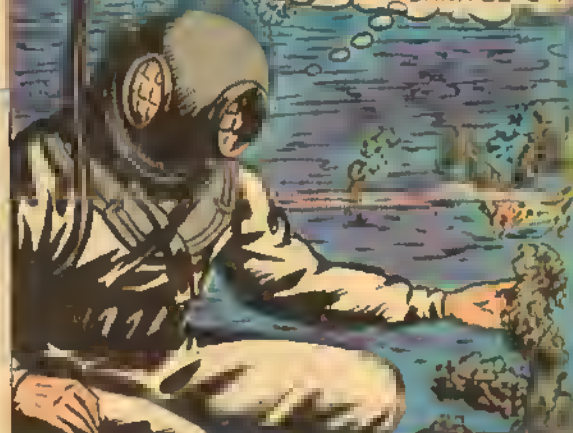


ON THE
CRYSTAL-
CLEAR
WATER
BELOW,
BLUE BOLT
SPOTS CADD
DOING
SOMETHING
PECULIAR.

FUNNY! WHAT'S HE
SPRINKLING ABOUT?
LOOKS LIKE SEED!



HEY! SOON AS THAT STUFF HITS
THE SPONGES, THEY
SHRIVEL UP!



GOOO! SNAP SEES IT, TOO!
CADD MUST BE SPREADING
SOME CHEMICAL TO WIPE OUT
THE SPONGES!
THERE ISN'T ANY
PLAGUE! IT'S ALL
CADD'S DIRTY
WORK!



MEANWHILE...

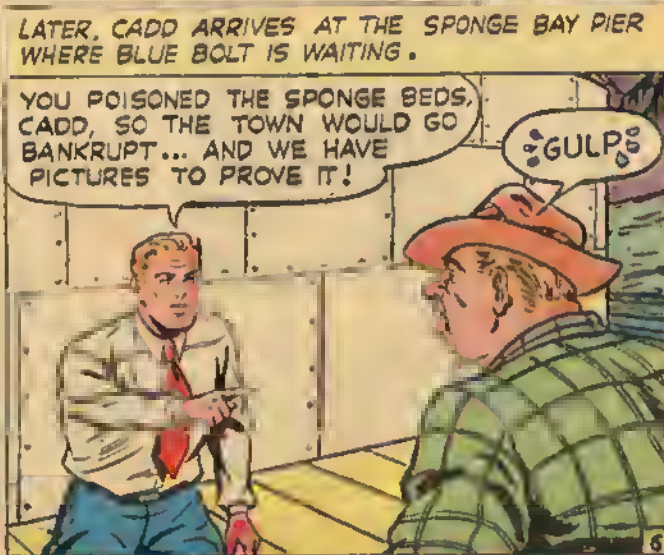
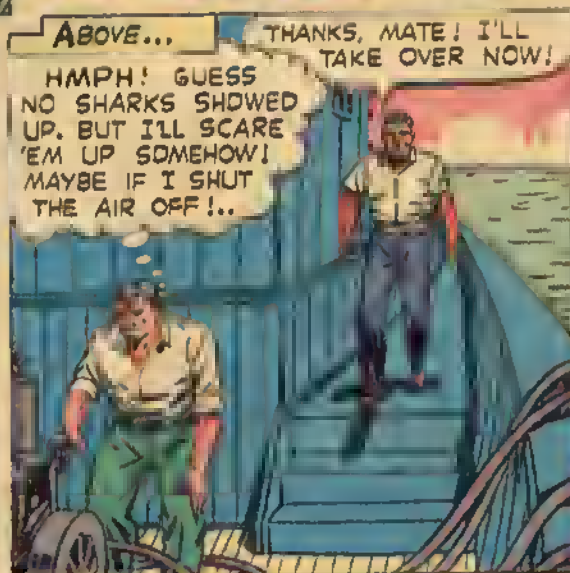
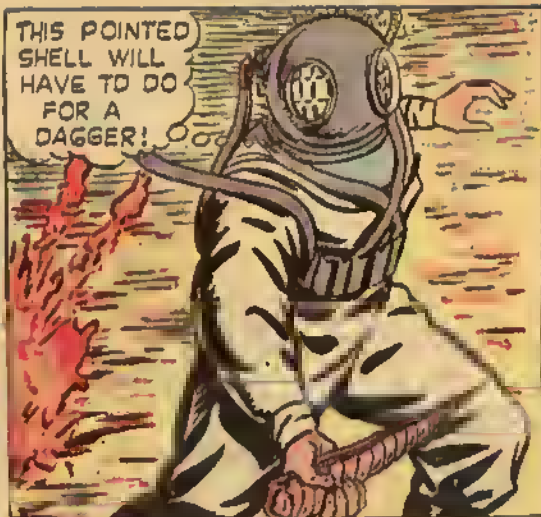
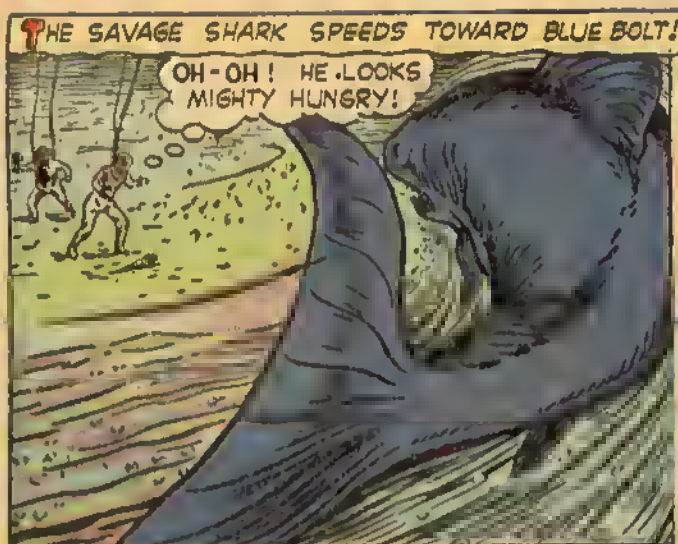
RAW MEAT! THE
SHARKS WILL FLOCK
AROUND, AND SCARE
BOLT AND OOOOLE
TO THE SURFACE!



THE SCRAPS OF MEAT
WHET THE APPETITE OF A
HUGE MAN-EATER!



Q11 In what sport did the term "throw in the sponge" originate?



A11 Boxing. The loser's seconds used to toss a sponge into the ring as a sign of defeat.